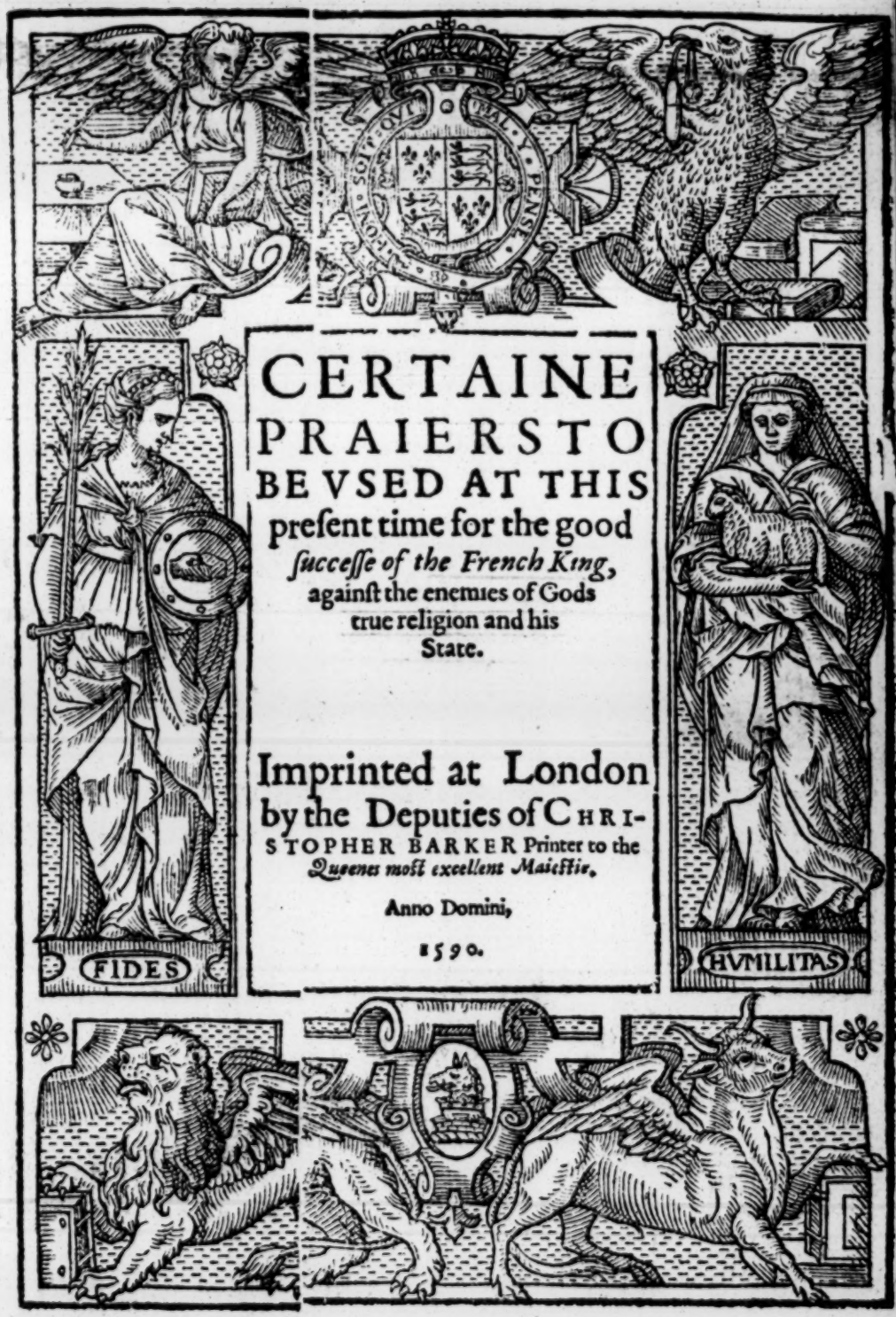

CERTAINE PRAIERS TO BE VSED AT THIS preſent time for the good *ſucceſſe of the French King*, againſt the enemies of Gods true religion and his State.

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Anno Domini,

1590.

A prayer.

O Lord God of hostes, most mightie and merciful Father, who in thy vnspeakeable wisedom and mercie, hast gathered vnto thy selfe a Church truly professing thy holy name and Gospell: We doe here most humbly acknowledge that through our manifold sinnes and offences against thy heauenly maiestie, committed by vnthankfull receiuing of thy holy word, & by wicked led liues, we haue made our selues vnworthie of the least of these and other thy singular blessings hitherto very aboundantly powred vpon vs. Neuertheless (O heauenly Father) with an assured confidēce, relying vpon thy promises, we make bold to draw neere vnto the throne of thy grace, humblie crauing forgiuenes of our sinnes, & the continuance of thy blessings vpon vs, and vpon all princes, countries and common wealths that haue receiued & do embrace thine holy Gospel, & that at this time fight thy battels against the aduersaries of thy Gospell, and those that vphold the kingdome of Antichrist. Therefore being cast downe in soule, we doe bewaile our iniquities, setting the bitter death and precious blood shed of thy deare sonne Christ Jesus, betwixt vs and thy iust wrath conceiued against vs & them. Turne (O Lord) thy wrathfull indignation from vs and them: And forasmuch as it is not for our sinnes that our enemies in their purpose haue thus banded themselues against vs, but for the sincere profession of thy word and Gospel: With thy mightie arme confound and bring to nought the deuises, power and strength of all such as set themselues against ỹ same. Thou knowest (O Lord) how the heathen and such

as hold of superstitious vanities, euen at this present in France, and elsewhere doe rushe into thine inheritance to make thy chosen Ierusalē, euen thy Church, a desolate heape of stones, to lay waste thy holy sanctuarie, yea euē to giue vp the flesh of thy deare childrē to the birdes of the aire, and the slaine carcasses of thy Saints to the beasts of the field. Wherefore (most mightie God of hostes) which art the Lord of glorie and power, that canst arme the most base & meanest of thy creatures to the ouerthrow of all the mightie of the world that bee enemies for thy truethes sake: aduance thy selfe like a mightie Giant with a swift and terrible iudgement against them, frustrate the counsels of all their Achitophels, breake them down with an iron rod like an earthen vessell, send an hoste of Angels to scatter their armies, confound them as thou diddest the host of the Assyrians, let thine owne sword fight for thy seruants, & deuoure vp their enemies: be thou as fire vnto them, and let them be as a stubble before thee. Finally, let them be as Oreb and Zeb, yea like vnto Zebah and Salmanah, and be made as dung on the face of the earth. Send (good Lord) vpon them the spirite of feare and trembling, that they may flee before the hoste of thine Israel, as chaffe before the wind, to the ende they may bee discomfited and ouerthrowen by thy mightie hand, neither giue thy seruants (O Lord) to be a praie vnto their teeth, or a by word and reproch to such as hate the true profession of thy Gospell: For we doe onely rest assured vnder the shadow of thy wings. Protect in mercy as the apple of thine eie, and mercifully powre vpon those armies that fight against ỹ enemies of the Gospell, the spirit of wisedom, foresight, counsel, strength and courage, that in full assurance of thine heauenly helpe fighting for them, ten of them may chase an hundred, & an hundred of them put to flight a thou-

sand

sand of their aduersaries. Be thou (O Lorde) their continuall refuge and strong rocke of defence, let thy holy Angels pitch their tents round about them, that they may know thy holy hand both stretched out for their helpe, and strongly set against their and our enemies. Teach their hands to warre, and their fingers to fight: prosper that which they take in hand, O prosper thou their handie worke, and make them alwaies to reioice in thy saluation and deliuerance, that so all such as loue not the trueth of thy Gospel, hearing thereof, may bee discomfited, and that thy feare may fall vpon thine enemies to the perpetuall glory of thy holy name, and that we escaping the rage and furie of those which seeke after our liues, and the ouerthrow of thy trueth, may in thy holy Church here militant, and after in the Church triumphant in heauen, eternally sing praises to thee our heauenly Father, the onely giuer of all victorie. Grant these things for thy Sonne Christ Jesus sake, to whom with thee and the holy Ghost, three persons and one eternall, immortall, inuincible, and onely wise God, bee all honour, prayse, glory and dominion, now and for euer. Amen.

A prayer.

MOst mightie God and mercifull Father, for so much as thou hast promised to maintaine and defend the cause of thy Church so deerely purchased and redeemed euen with the precious blood of thy deerely beloued Sonne: we thy humble seruants confessing our owne vnworthinesse, through the infinite number of our wilfull transgressions, doe at this time prostrate our selues here before thy diuine maiestie, and wholy relying vpon thy promises, most heartily beseech thee through the merites of Iesus Christ our Sauiour, to protect and strengthen thy Seruants our brethren in France, that are now readie to fight for the glory of thy name. Thou knowest (O Lord) how the aduersaries that come to fight against them, haue entred into a league and combined themselues together, neuer to desist vntill they haue destroied all such as professe thy Gospell, and laid the glory of thy Sion and Temple in the dust. And although both our and their offences doe most iustly deserue, that both they and we should bee deliuered to the edge of the sword: yet seeing that these conspirators and rebellers doe hate thy seruants onely for the cause of thy trueth, and that they are noted in the world for such as outwardly professe thy name, & the true doctrine of the Gospell of thy Sonne our Sauiour Christ: Saue them in thy mercy (O heauenly Father) from the crueltie of their enemies, cast a feare and trembling into the hearts of their aduersaries, take the cause of thy Gospel into thine owne hands: go before them, fight the battels of thy children, and subdue their enemies: so shal that proud generation haue no

cause

cause to insult ouer thy true Church, and ouer thy seruants, nor to say with thy old enemies, Where is now their God? And we thy penitent and most humble suppliants that doe here at this time make intercession both for our brethren and for our selues, will from henceforth declare thy name with cheerefull hearts in the midst of the congregation, we will euer praise thee and magnifie thy saluation, world without end. Graunt this (O mercifull Father) for thy deare sonnes sake our Lord and Sauiour Iesus Christ, to whom with thee and the holy Ghost, three persons and one God, bee all honour, glory, power and dominion, now and for euer. Amen.

Another.

O Most mightie Lord God, the Lord of hostes, the gouernour of all creatures, the onely giuer of all victories, who alone art able to strengthen the weake against the mightie, and to vanquish infinite multitudes of thine enemies with the countenance of a fewe of thy seruants calling vpon thy name, and trusting in thee: Defend O Lord, thy seruant the French King, and especially at this time giue him power, to withstand the crueltie of those which be common enemies aswell to the trueth of thine eternall worde, as to his Crowne and Realme, which thou hast of thy diuine prouidence assigned vnto him in these our dayes. Most mercifull Father, (if it be thy holy will) make soft and tender the stonie hearts of all those, that exalt themselues against thy trueth, and seeke to oppresse the professours thereof. Conuert them to the knowledge of thy Sonne, the onely Sauiour of the world

world Jesus Christ, that wee & they may ioyntly glorifie thy mercies: lighten (we beseech thee, their ignorant hearts to imbrace the trueth of thy word, or else so abate their crueltie, (O most mightie Lorde) that such Christian Regions as confesse the holy Gospell, may obtaine by thy aide and strength, surety from their enemies without shedding of Christian and innocent blood, whereby all they that be oppressed with their tyrannie may be releeued, and all which be in feare of their crueltie may be comforted. And finally, that all Christian Realmes, & specially this Realme of England may by thy defence and protection enioy perfect peace, quietnesse and securitie. And that we for these thy mercies ioyntly altogether, with one consonãt heart and voyce, may thankfully render to thee all laude and prayse, and in one godly concorde and vnitie amongst our selues, may continually magnifie thy glorious name, who with thy Sonne our Sauiour Jesus Christ, and the holy Ghost, art one eternal, Almighty, and most mercifull God, to whom be all laud and prayse, worlde without end,

Amen.

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